



STATE OF MAINE  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
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AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0001

Paul R. LePage  
GOVERNOR

2 July 2013

The 126th Legislature of the State of Maine  
State House  
Augusta, ME

Dear Honorable Members of the 126th Legislature:

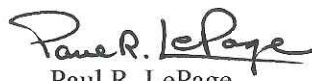
Under the authority vested in me by Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, I am hereby vetoing LD 1362, "Resolve, Relating to a Review of Risks Associated with Tar Sands Oil."

This bill directs the Department of Environmental Protection to conduct a study of oil sands products transportation in Maine. However, the Department is already investigating such transportation and going beyond the scope of the bill to develop spill response plans to ensure that the impacts of a potential spill in Maine will be minimized. Regardless, the amended bill directs the department to undertake work duplicative of work already ongoing, in effect, treating the Department like a research group for the Legislature. This is another example of unnecessary lawmaking. In fact, the Department's initial study efforts resulted in a comprehensive 325-page report, to which the public has access. Instead of encouraging the Department to continue their emergency response planning efforts, however, the bill would have the Department provide summaries of publicly available documents.

This bill inappropriately redirects the Department's resources to support the curiosity of the Legislature rather than fulfilling more practical needs of Maine's citizens and environment, and I cannot support it. I am confident that the Department's ongoing efforts in this area sufficiently address transportation of these products through Maine.

For these reasons, I return LD 1362 unsigned and vetoed. I strongly urge the Legislature to sustain it.

Sincerely,

  
Paul R. LePage  
Governor



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